(vii) Government has amended the Sugar Development Fund Act, 1982 to enable it, *inter alia,* to utilise the SDF for defraying expenditure on internal transport/freight charges to the sugar factories on export shipments of sugar and neutralization of ocean freight disadvantage on exports.

(viii) Government has also decided to allow the reimbursement of handling and marketing charges at the rate of Rs. 500 per tonne on the export shipments.

(ix) The Central Government has approved One-Time Assistance for an amount of Rs. 678.06 crores to the States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Haryana, Punjab and Bihar to clear the cane price arrears of private sugar factories in respect of difference between the State Advised Price (SAP) and Statutory Minimum Price (SMP) of the 2002-2003 sugar season by way of a soft loan to the said State Governments at concessional rate of interest of 4% per annum with an initial moratorium of 3 years and repayable in 3 years.

The Government has also decided to extend assistance to non SAP States also by way of additional marketing borrowings to clear the cane price arrears of 2002-2003 sugar season.

Arrears of sugarcane dues

995. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have extended any Central assistance to different States to help clear arrears of sugarcane dues for 2002-03, if so, the aid extended during the last three months and how far the arrears for 2003-04 have been paid off, indicating the arrears, State-wise, as on the 1st April, 2003;

(b) the arrears of cane dues as on the 1st September, 2003, indicating the arrears in Uttar Pradesh, the Central aid sought by the State Government and the arrears still outstanding; and

(c) what strategy has been evolved and adopted to ensure smooth clearances of cane dues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Central Government have allocated Rs. 678.06 crores as assistance to the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Bihar, Punjab and Haryana to help in clearing the arrears of sugarcane price of the private sugar factories in these States for 2002-03 sugar season. No amount has been extended from the abovementioned allocation as the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Punjab and Haryana are unwilling to avail of this assistance in the present form and the Government of Bihar has not as yet given a response indicating the details of actual eligible amounts for assistance after making an initial request for assistance for clearing dues of previous years also.

The State-wise position of arrears of cane price indicating the arrears of 2000-01 and earlier sugar seasons, 2001-02 sugar season and balance of price for the 2002-03 season as on 31.3.2003 is at Statement-I (*See* below).

A similar State-wise position as on 31-8-2003 indicating the arrears of Uttar Pradesh is at Statement-II.

The Central Government have also decided to offer assistance to the State Governments by way of market borrowings to help sugar factories in clearing the cane price dues of 2002-03 sugar season. These measures along with the other steps taken by the Government, namely, creation of buffer stock of 20 lakh tonnes of sugar for a period of one year, reimbursement of internal transport and freight charges in respect of export shipments of sugar to sugar factories, including reimbursement of amounts to neutralize ocean freight disadvantage and reimbursement of amounts for handling and marketing charges, have been adopted to facilitate clearance of cane price arrears.

Statement-I

State-wise/zone-wise position of cane price payable paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 2002-2003 season upto as well as arrears of cane price as on 31-3-2003

(Fig. in Lakh Rs.)

State/Zone	Total price payable for cane purchased during 2002-2003 upto 31-3-2003	Cane price paid upto 31-3-2003	Balance cane price payable as on 31-3-2003	%age of Balance price payable over total payable	Arrear of cane price as on 31-3-2003 or the latest available date		No. of factories	
					2000-2001	2001-2002 & earlier	Reported	Present
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	45,968.83	24,859.27	21,109.56	45.92	2152.18	0.00	7	23
Haryana	23,341.78	12,161.84	11,179.94	47.90	1,694.00	110.00	5	15
Rajasthan	227.54	0.00	227.54	100.00	0.00	1.18	1	3
West UP	117,103.90	69,323.75	47,780.15	40.80	0.00	0.00	26	27
Central UP	135,543.66	74,740.15	60,803.51	44.86	369.63	621.80	38	43
East UP	89,142.02	55,687.24	33,454.78	37.53	2,221.29	5,083.90	43	50
Total UP	341,789.58	199,751.14	142,038.44	41.56	2,581.92	5,705.70	107	120
Uttaranchal	355.80	0.00	355.80	100.00	2,226.44	734.94	0	10
Madhya Pradesh	6,139.91	5,397.77	742.14	12.09	122.60	576.05	2	11
South Gujarat	49,884.95	41,488.10	8,396.85	16.83	0.00	0.00	8	17
Saurashtra	2,714.25	1,110.93	1,603.32	59.07	0.00	139.75	1	6
Total Gujarat	52,599.20	42,599.03	10,000.17	19.01	0.00	139.75	9	23
South Maharashtra	81,501.44	74,988.38	6,513.06	7.99	0.00	388.44	14	44
North Maharashtra	39,143.63	35,274.13	3,869.50	9.89	2.53	9.07	16	68

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central Maharashtra	72,602.63	66,407.74	6,194.89	8.53	344.25	2044.40	19	52
Total Maharashtra	193,247.70	176,670.25	16,577.45	8.58	346.78	2441.91	19	164
Maharashtra								
North Bihar	10,448.06	5,617.12	4,830.94	46.24	794.21	3,424.47	0	26
South Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	3
Total Bihar	10,448.06	5,617.12	4,830.94	46.24	794.21	3,424.47	0	29
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	10.48	0	3
Andhra Pradesh	68,993.97	44,620.96	24,373.01	35.33	429.15	369.85	14	44
Karnataka	99,565.00	59,059.00	40,506.00	40.68	2418.00	2,432.00	42	44
Tamil Nadu	71,114.11	40,161.06	30,953.05	43.53	278.47	0.00	25	38
Kerala	177.00	0.00	177.00	100.00	0.00	128.29	1	3
Orissa	2,369.93	1830.56	539.37	22.76	0.00	35.44	3	8
West Bengal	249.28	0.00	249.28	100.00	0.00	0.00	0	2
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	1
Pondicherry	1,824.07	994.58	829.49	45.47	0.00	0.00	2	2
Goa	648.81	648.81	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
All India Total:	919,060.57	614,371.39	304,689.18	33.15	13,047.75	16,110.06	268	544

Statement-II

State-wise/zone-wise position of cane price payable, price paid and balance outstanding for cane purchased during 2002-2003 season upto as well as arrears of cane price as on 31-8-2003

(Fig. in Lakh Rs.)

State/Zone	Total price payable for cane purchased during 2002-2003 upto 31-8-2003	Cane price paid upto 31-8-2003	Balance cane price payable as on 31-8-2003	%age of Balance price payable over total payable	Arrears of cane price as on 31-8-2003 or the latest available date		No. of factories	
					2000-2001	2001-2002 & earlier	Reported	Present
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Punjab	59,895.21	43,366.67	16,528.44	27.60	3.35	0.00	22	23
Haryana	61,916.64	43,641.49	18,275.15	29.52	796.00	0.00	5	15
Rajasthan	250.80	250.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.18	1	3
West UP	162,066.18	125,975.97	36,090.21	22.27	0.00	0.00	26	27
Central UP	197,540.05	145,347.23	52,192.82	26.42	134.99	621.80	38	43
East up	135,847.79	103,302.33	32,545.46	23.96	2,093.06	4,723.00	43	50
Total up	495,454.02	374,625.53	120,828.49	24.39	2,228.05	5,344.80	107	120
Uttaranchal	44,194.54	32,644.89	11,549.65	26.13	2,166.67	0.00	0	10
Madhya Pradesh	6,139.91	5,797.74	342.17	5.57	122.60	576.05	2	11
South Gujarat	80,648.41	76,318.92	9,329.49	5.37	0.00	0.00	9	17
Saurashtra	3,302.44	3,301.99	0.45	0.01	0.00	139.75	0	0
Total Gujarat	83,950.85	79,620.91	4,329.94	5.16	0.00	139.75	9	23
South Maharashtra	103,370.27	100,437.86	2,932.41	2.84	0.00	388.44	14	44

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
North Maharashtra	45,312.22	43,107.37	2,204.85	4.87	1.88	8.65	8	69
Central Maharashtra	98.186.69	94,761.89	3,424.80	3.49	241.20	1,428.76	13	52
Total Maharashtra	246,869.18	238,307.12	8,562.06	3.47	243.08	1,825.85	35	166
North Bihar	32,774.86	26,039.58	6,735.28	20.55	418.14	3,421.13	1	26
South Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	3
Total Bihar	32,774.86	26,039.58	6,735.28	20.55	418.14	3,421.13	1	29
Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00	10.48	0	3
Andhra Pradesh	97,510.12	89,864.03	7,646.09	7.84	0.00	369.85	39	44
Karnataka	123,328.00	109,987.00	13,341.00	10.82	2,127.00	2,395.00	39	44
Tamil Nadu	122,027.82	97,556.41	24,471.41	20.05.00	0.00	0.00	24	38
Kerala	177.00	0.00	177.00	100.00	0.87	122.00	1	3
Orissa	2,829.93	2,829.83	0.12	0.00	0.00	35.44	1	8
West Bengal	249.28	0.00	249.28	100.00	0.00	0.00	0	2
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	1
Pondicherry	2,473.62	2,325.90	147.72	5.97	0.00	0.00	1	2
Goa	769.24	769.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1	1
All India Total:	1380,811.04	1,147,627.24	233,183.80	16.89	8,109.76	14,241.53	259	545